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US Army Corps  
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Nashville District

# DistrictDigest

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*Respected-Responsible-Reliable*

December 2002

## Don't be Stranded on the Highway in Winter

by Steve Foshee

**D**o you have a bad radiator hose, belts with cracks or spark plug wires that should have been replaced months ago? If your answer is, "I don't know," you could be the next one stranded on the highway this winter.

The number one priority on most vehicle winter checklists is the tune-up. Problems like a bad radiator hose can be detected quickly and easily fixed when compared to waiting along the road for a tow truck in 20-30 degree weather.

The next item to be checked would be the battery. There are two things about batteries that all drivers should know. First, the battery that started your car easily in the summer may not start your car in the winter because engine oil isn't as "fluid" in the winter months when the cold causes it to thicken. And second, batteries lose power as the temperature drops. Batteries are always rated by a measure called "cold cranking amps" (CCA), which is the maximum number of amps the battery can deliver at zero degrees for only 30 seconds. A good rule of thumb is to purchase a battery at or above the 600 CCA rating. Check to see if distilled water needs to be added to the battery or is the battery sealed, which doesn't require any additional water.

Once you're comfortable the battery is in good shape, the next item to check is the cooling system. Most areas require a 50-50 mix of coolant to water, which will be good at -34°F with a Boil-over protection of +265°F. A coolant gauge can be used to pull a little coolant from the radiator and, based on the number of floating balls in the gauge, determine the protection range of the coolant. If the coolant doesn't give at least a protection level of -34°F, possible

freezing might damage the engine block. One early sign of low coolant level may be a lack of heat in the car.

After checking the coolant, check the condition of the windshield wipers and don't forget the rear window defroster and wiper blade.

Another item that needs attention is the fuel gage. A full tank of gas in the winter months will prevent daytime temperatures from filling that empty space with condensed moisture.

## December Dates in District History

**1779, Dec. 22** - Colonel John Donelson's flotilla begins a five-month journey down the Tennessee River and eventually up the Cumberland to present day Nashville.

**1830, Dec. 1** - Construction of first Muscle Shoals canal begins.

**1864, Dec. 15-16** - The occupying Union army emerges from Corps of Engineer constructed fortifications and routs the Confederate Army of the Tennessee in the climactic Battle of Nashville.

**1911, Dec. 4** - Colbert Shoals Canal opened on the Tennessee River.

**1916, Dec. 21** - Lock D opens for navigation on the Cumberland River.

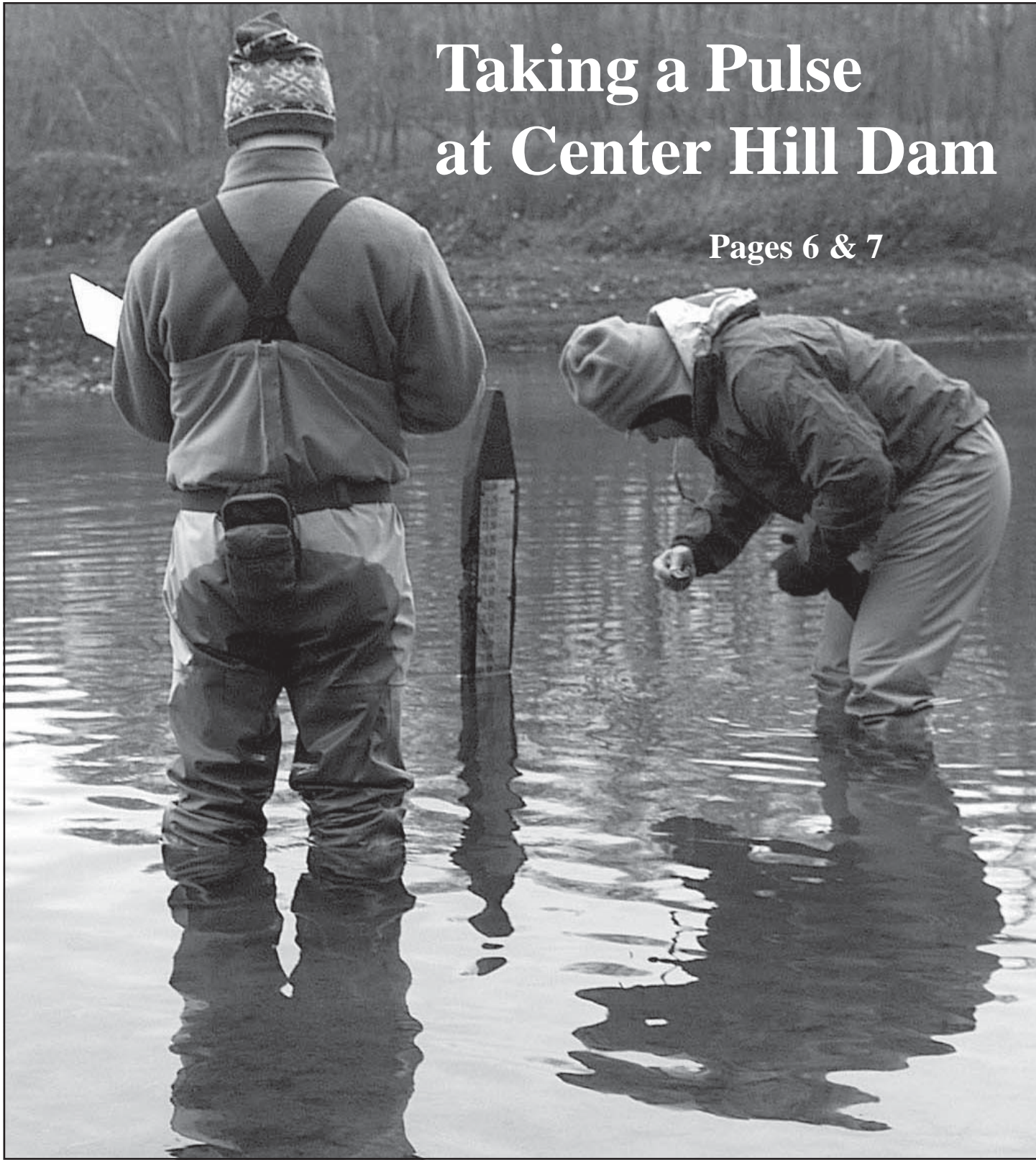
**1926, December** - Nashville's greatest flood begins.

**1941, Dec. 1** - The Construction Division of the Army Quartermaster Corps is transferred to the Corps of Engineers, greatly increasing Nashville District's military construction mission.

**1950, December** - Wolf Creek Dam was completed for flood control operation and Lake Cumberland was filled.

**1952, December** - Cheatham Lake filled and Lock opens to the public.

**1967, December** - J. Percy Priest Lake filled. The project was authorized by Congress in 1946, initially under the title "Stewarts Ferry Reservoir". Public Law 85-496, approved July 2, 1958, changed the name to honor the late Congressman from Tennessee.



## Taking a Pulse at Center Hill Dam

Pages 6 & 7



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## Security Reminder

As required in memorandum, CEPM-ZC, subject: Certification of Telecommunications Security Monitoring Notification Procedures, dated 28 May 97, all Nashville District employees are reminded of the following:

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Photo by Dave Treadway

## On the Cover

Tim Johnson (left) and Jim Mauries, from the Cumberland Chapter of Trout Unlimited, record the rate of rise in the Caney Fork River and the water temperature at the Happy Hollow Gage 5.2 miles downstream of Center Hill Dam during a minimum flow study. Nashville District conducted the study Nov. 16 and 17 with the help of 20 volunteers who were interested in the preservation and enhancement of aquatic habitat that would benefit both trout and the organisms upon which they depend for food. See story on pages 6 & 7.

## DistrictDigest

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Information about the Nashville District may also be found on the District's homepage at: <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil>.

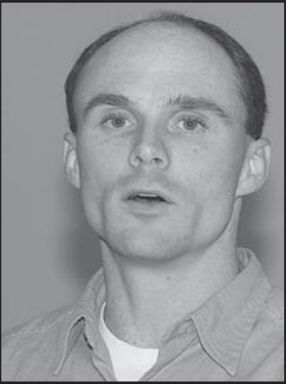
## 2002 EAGLES Graduate at Belmont University

Members of the 2002 EAGLE class graduated from the seven-month leadership development program Nov. 21 and will now use the knowledge they gained at their respective positions throughout the District.

Deputy Commander Maj. Robert Pegg reminded the graduates that they were participating in a unique program. Only Nashville District has EAGLE.

### Invest in People

“EAGLE shows Nashville’s commitment to train our people. The type of training you received here at Belmont University, other people pay for with their money. Use the skills you have learned here to broaden your horizons and even aspire to go into a different line of work. We hope it gave you a bigger perspective of the District and the way things really are.”



**Tadd Potter** remembered for sharing Christian principles and

reaching out to others much like a good neighbor would do.

Mickie Porter wanted to be remembered for blessing others as God has blessed her. Tommy Mason hoped he would be known for his integrity, once he is gone. Caleb Skinner said faith in God is his mainstay. He also said love is a way of life and if any word could be associated with his life, he would want that word to be love.



**Tommy Mason**

instill those same qualities in her.

Elaine Bustillos revealed the fact that she wants to be remembered as a great landscape artist, as well as a model wife, mother and daughter.

Mark Willis revealed to chuckles that, after 21 years of marriage, he had finally graduated from the Husband Training Academy. On the serious side, he wanted to be remembered as someone who didn’t do anything half-way and that he tried to always be a professional.

Tadd Potter spoke of the examples his parents provided that helped teach him to be polite and respectful of others and with the arrival of his daughter on August 3 he will have the same opportunity to

Owen Traugher waxed eloquent and quoted Shakespeare, “To be or not to be . . .” He posed the discussion topic to his Dad who replied, “Remember me in your heart but just remember AT&T. Call me while I’m here!” He then related how he wanted to be known as one who says what he can do and is not afraid to back it up with actions.

Richard Graham approached the front of the class with a large sheet of paper. “Well, my paper is bigger, but the print is too,” said Graham. “When I got started on my remarks, I had a longer list of the things I wanted folks to forget,” he laughed. He then said he wanted to be known as someone who didn’t mind asking for help and for directions too!

Mike Adcock said it wasn’t important that he could provide the food for the table for his children, what was important was that he could teach them to plant and harvest. Joy Broach wanted to be remembered for her appreciation of others and as the ultimate team player.

Mickie Porter was selected to help administer the 2003 EAGLE program and Joann Booker was presented an Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service for her work with the 2002 Class.



**Richard Graham**

## TRPA Award

**Cont. from page 5**  
from the Upper Cumberland District of the Boy Scouts of America, who planted the first 30 trees on Oct. 27, 2001. The Boy Scouts also cleaned, by hand, the entire island camping area by removing downed limbs, roots, rocks and other debris. By the end of the year, partners in Project Phoenix, public donors, and numerous volunteers had raised more than \$6,000 for tree plantings. A total of 510 hardwoods of various species were planted, 210 of those as a direct result of

Project Phoenix.

Dale Hollow Lake’s Lillydale Recreation Area officially opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 23, 2002 – a little later than normal but far earlier than Resource Management personnel envisioned when the Pine Beetle epidemic was first discovered – thanks to concerned members of all the organizations that helped restore the site.

Project Phoenix provided the public an opportunity to join in the restoration and rebirth of one of the most popular Corps of Engineers Campgrounds in Tennessee. Now the scope is even wider.

“Project Phoenix is now an on-going

restoration project,” said Hafling, “that extends beyond Lillydale for resource renovations/restorations lake-wide.” It united various partnering groups, community organizations, and individuals with a love for Dale Hollow Lake. As a result, Lillydale underwent an award-winning face-lift considered noteworthy by TRPA and the effort continues today in other affected areas.

And not to be ignored was the fact that the replacement trees didn’t cost federal dollars. All the trees planted by the Boy Scouts and other volunteers were purchased with funds donated through Project Phoenix.



# The Corps Crowd

## Congratulations to...

...Preston Johnson, son of James Johnson, electrician at Wolf Creek Power plant, who has accepted membership in the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. The NSCS recognizes first and second year undergraduate students who excel academically. Preston is a sophomore at Kennesaw State Univ. in Kennesaw, Ga., a major in political science and a minor in Latin American Studies. He will study the German language this summer.

...Elizabeth Barron, daughter of Hydraulic Engineer Bill Barron, H&H Branch, graduates from the University of Tennessee Chattanooga School of Nursing as a Registered Nurse on December 15, 2002.

...Tom Cayce who has been selected to the permanent dual-hat position of Assistant Chief of PPPMD and Chief of the Project Delivery Branch.

...Mr. Ron Gatlin, Chief of the Regulatory Branch, is the Nashville District’s Employee of the Month for November 2002.

...Frederick Bell, Park Ranger, and Jeff Orten, Facility Manager, Old Hickory Lake, on their promotion to the Natural Resource Management Branch in the positions of Park Ranger, Ranger Development Section and Outdoor Recreation

## Patterson

**Cont. from page 5**  
fun into everything,” said Bauer, “so that others are drawn to follow her. She has contributed tremendously to natural resources management through her own accomplishments by motivating others.”

TRPA Board Member Tim Dunn agrees. “Her dynamic presence contributes to the success of the projects she takes on and leads others to take action,” said Dunn.

Patterson manages the Shoreline Management Program, where she has to balance current demands for private recreational use of both land and natural resources with protection of those resources for generations to come.

From 1994 to 1999, Patterson was the Environmental Protection Specialist and Team Leader Park Ranger at Old Hickory

Planner, Park Resource Section, respectively.

## Get Well to...

...Larry Joe Miller, 15-year Electronic Engineer Technician with Electronic Service Section at Old Hickory Lake, at home, permanently, with a serious illness. Cards and letters can be sent to him at 2803 Paden Dr., Nashville, TN 37206.

## Welcome to...

...Thomas O’Connell, Park Ranger, Old Hickory Lake, who comes to us from Wildlife Services and Rebecca Jolly, Park Ranger, who transferred to Old Hickory Lake from W. Kerr Scott Lake, Willmington District, Wilksboro, N.C.

## Baby Brigade...

...Mary Ann Brannan, Regulatory Specialist, Eastern Regulatory Field Office, on the birth of her first child, Matti Claire born on Nov. 2. She weighed 7 lbs., 11oz., and measured 20 ¼ in. long.  
...Cathy Simpson’s granddaughter Jailey Marie Simpson, was born Nov. 22. She weighed in at 6 lbs., 6 oz., and measured

Lake. In that role, she ensured all Corps facilities and lease areas, such as commercial marinas, were constructed, maintained and operated in compliance with all local, state, and federal environmental policies, regulations and laws. She

**People**  
was tasked with finding the best management practices to minimize pollution and protect the historical and cultural resources of the project. She detailed those practices in both a Pollution Prevention Plan and a Cultural/Historical Resources Plan.

Prior to that, she performed the duties of a Park Ranger first at Center Hill Lake and then at Old Hickory. She has also helped protect natural and cultural resources in temporary assignments as a conservation biologist and while working

19 in. long.

## Sympathy to . . .

...The family of Dorse Carroll (Smooth), former employee of Nashville Repair Station, who passed away Nov. 3.  
...The family of Mr. Robert (Pop) Parrish, former employee, Old Hickory Power Plant, who passed away Dec. 4.

## Thank You to. . .

...all Corps employees for the wonderful “Retirement Reception” and the monetary gift toward my Victorian chase. I also want to thank you for all your prayers, support and friendship over the years. As I retire from government service, my wish for each of you is that pleasure walk with you, luck smile upon you and that joy be at home in each of your hearts. May God richly bless each one of you always...Cathy Simpson.

...I was overwhelmed by all the prayers, get well wishes, phone calls and visits. The flowers and vase were so beautiful. I loved my basket from the Division Office and Mr. Curtis loved his rawhide and ball. God Bless you all and keep you. You’re the greatest. Thank you, Brigitte Rugare and Family.

in the Environmental Section with the District Archaeologist.

Patterson completed the District Leadership Development Program in 2001. Those who have worked with her say she is in her element as she mentors young rangers and always influences those with whom she works with her knowledge and enthusiasm.

The District recently took advantage of her versatile talents and assigned her temporarily to the Regulatory Branch to enforce Sections 10 and 404 of the Clean Water Act. She completed that assignment last month.

Former District recipients of the Resource Management Award for Excellence include Ron Rains, Ralph Ownby, Carolyn Bauer, Todd Yann, Mark Herd, Sondra Hafling, Cindy Jackson and Tim Dunn.

## Lieutenant Colonel Steve Gay

# The Bottom Line

Happy Holidays to everyone in the Nashville District! 2002 has been a year filled with outstanding successes as well as some painful personal losses. For those of you who lost an irreplaceable loved one, a cherished friend, or invaluable co-worker this year, I’m sorry for your loss and hope that your pain will be eased as time passes in 2003.

There were far too many District successes to mention them all in detail but I believe it is worthwhile to discuss a few in general. Our fleet and repair parties completed numerous planned dewaterings and other emergency repairs from one end of the District to the other. Our locks and hydropower facilities led the Corps in availability and forced outages, and as always, millions of delighted users patronized our recreation areas. Our regulators amazingly processed thousands of permits in record time, many controversial, balancing the need for development and the necessity to protect and improve the environment. On several occasions this year, we had the opportunity to help those in need through a difficult situation caused by natural disasters. We’ve expertly managed our projects and provided outstanding engineering projects to countless satisfied customers throughout the region. Due to the dedicated efforts

of numerous folks throughout the District, we have a healthy workload for many years in our future. By every measure, Nashville is the best District in the Corps and I am without question the luckiest and proudest District engineer.

The fact that we are the best District in the Corps is no accident. It is due to a value-based, technically-competent, and hard-working team operating in a culture where treating each other with dignity and respect and striving to do and be better is the norm. What I’ve just described is in part what some are now referring to as a “learning organization.” A “learning organization” is a term coined by Peter M. Senge in his 1990 book, *The Fifth Discipline: the Art and Practice of the Learning Organization*. What it intends is that there is a free flow of information and feedback from the lowest levels to the highest. I hope this sounds familiar. Nashville District has been doing just that for a long time. But we can always do it better. I encourage you not to be put off by “another” bit of management jargon. This isn’t so much a “new program” as a refinement of what we have always done — share information. Share through discussing issues with your chain of command, by mentoring those with less experience, by attending necessary training, through taking part in after-action reviews, and by being an



enthusiastic and productive member of all project delivery teams in which you serve. You will be hearing more about becoming a learning organization. Don’t let the buzzwords lead you astray. It is still a matter of doing more of what we do best...talk to one another, and share our own best practices.

The holiday season is upon us! Just so everyone enjoys it, let me give you some holiday related safety advice. It is very important to practice safety when it comes to Christmas decorations. Some things to do: use flame-resistant or non-combustible materials for holiday decorations, keep candles away from anything flammable, use only electrical decorations and cords that bear the name of an independent testing lab, and follow manufacturer’s instructions. If you have a live Christmas tree, be sure to keep it well watered. Also, many of us will be driving to shop and visit family. Please practice defensive driving. The weather can change rapidly and rain or snow can cause very hazardous road conditions. Remember to slow down and give yourself plenty of room around other drivers.

Thanks to all of you for your hard work, kindness, and compassion during this season. Through your efforts and contributions, you have enriched the lives of your district teammates, children, and needy people throughout the region. You and your efforts exemplify what this time of year is all about. I encourage you to take a pause from the hustle and bustle of daily life this holiday season. Spend time with your friends and loved ones . . . relax, and recharge your batteries. Thank you for your hard work in your service to the Army, and your friendship. Have a great holiday!

## Gatlin Named Employee of the Month

Ron Gatlin, Chief of the Regulatory Branch, is the Nashville District’s Employee of the Month for November. He is recognized for his recent outstanding work as acting Deputy Chief of Operations Division.

From mid-July to mid-November, Gatlin’s initiative, superior work ethic, and enthusiasm helped keep Operations



Ron Gatlin

Division on track to exceed performance expectations in hydropower, navigation, flood damage reduction, recreation, natural resources management, regulatory and readiness. As Acting Chief he helped the Nashville District once again lead all seven LRD Districts in O&M Budget execution and showed that he is a true team player.



# Duncan Honored by MTSU

Story & photo by Dave Treadway

Acting Information Management Chief Todd Duncan was awarded the Edwin Voorhies Business Award by Middle Tennessee State University Nov. 15 for his efforts to employ University students in the District's Cooperative education program. The award was presented by former Co-op student and now full-time Computer Information Systems Specialist Vicki Miles.

**BULLETIN**  
Todd Duncan has been selected as the new Information Management Chief to succeed John Lambrecht.

Duncan was conferred the honor based on his use of the program to supplement his staff with new talent. "We are proud of the relationship the Corps of Engineers has been able to cultivate with MTSU," said Duncan. "I look forward to working with many other students in the MTSU programs." Seven Co-op students from the Murfreesboro school currently work in Information Management, Management Support, and Resource Management. Bunmi Onadeko, Michael Green, Michele Hatchett, and Tim Dawson assist Duncan with information systems maintenance, while Ben Rankin and Matt Radtke work for Supervisor Ed Morris in Management Support as Information Technology Specialist Student Trainees. Amanda Gill works for Nancy Manahan as a Student Trainee in Accounting. Miles considers the Co-op Program central to the position she now holds. "I enjoyed being a part of the MTSU Co-op Program," explained Miles. "It has led to a full-time position with the Corps. Shortly after beginning as a Co-



Former Co-op student Vicki Miles presents the Edwin Voorhies Business Award to Acting Information Management Chief Todd Duncan Nov. 15 at Middle Tennessee State University.

op student, I had the opportunity to totally dissect a computer and spread it all over my desk, something I was never able to do in class." Information Systems employee Emily Manns said she enjoys working for the Nashville District. Students must meet certain eligibility requirements to apply for the Co-op program, sign an agreement upon acceptance, and be subject to regular evaluations by supervisors to continue in the program. One decided advantage is the possibility of conversion to full-time

## CFC Final Totals Exceed \$53,000

Organizers report a final total of \$53,592.56 in the District's 2002 Combined Federal Campaign. Co-chairs Tim Dunn and Cullum Miller attributed the success of the 2002 campaign to an excellent kick-off event on Oct. 9, managed by Mickie Porter and key workers at field locations who helped coordinate events there and increased

employment upon receipt of a degree. A number of District employees first began their association with the federal government as Co-op students. "I first worked in the Nashville District as a Co-Op," said Richard Tippit, "and I believe that experience paved the way for me to hold my current position as a Biologist. I learned about the Corps while still a student, found I liked the job and the people and knew it would be a fun way to earn a living. I then was picked up as an intern, earned employment rights and the Corps offered me a job."

employee awareness of the Campaign. Miller said many other employees who volunteered to serve as key workers within their respective offices proved vital to the campaign. District employees partnered with a number of other federal agencies to conduct a joint campaign kick-off on 9th Street adjacent to the Federal Building. .

## Chief Sends Holiday Greetings

Throughout this year, I've been pleased to see Corps people reaching out to help each other. "*The Corps takes care of its own*" has been a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers principle for as long as anyone can remember, and we saw it in action again this year. When Hurricane Lili seemed to take dead-aim at New Orleans District, Corps planning and preparation kicked in to transfer their missions to Memphis District. Fortunately, the storm missed New Orleans, and quickly fell from a Category 4 to a Category 2 hurricane. But the situation proved that if we have a "victim district" during a disaster, other districts could step in and take the load. Another example of the Corps taking care of its own is in Southwestern Division. SWD has created a Critical Incident Stress Management program that provides peer counselors to help their people deal with on-the-job trauma. That attitude of helping others extends outside the Corps as well. In the past year, we played a major role in cleaning up the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. In New York City, the Federal Emergency Management Agency tapped the Corps immediately for our expertise in debris removal. With our help, the partnership of agencies removed the debris from Ground Zero months ahead of schedule and \$55 million under budget. The Corps also assisted in the efforts to manage the Staten Island Landfill, a search and disposal location for tons of debris. Through its prime contractor, the Corps mechanized the operation and provided other assistance to facilitate the search, which identified and accounted for 500 victims of the terrorist attack. Those actions helped speed the healing process for our nation after Sept. 11. In addition, Baltimore District is managing the competition to select a design for a memorial to honor those who died when the airliner struck the Pentagon. The Corps is also taking steps to make sure such tragedies never happen again. We are committed to homeland security, and to preparing for and preventing future attacks. For example, the Corps is a valued member of The Infrastructure Security Partnership, a group of public and private organizations that work together on issues related to the security of the nation's built infrastructure. We recently took part in the first Annual Congress on Infrastructure Security in the Built Environment. And elsewhere... Thanks to Europe District, the Republic of Georgia has better security as their Border Patrol flies helicopters from renovated hangars. Thanks to L.A. District, Los Angeles now has greater flood protection. Thanks to Kansas City District, Jasper County has no lead contamination in their residential yards. Thanks to Corps people, U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan have electrical power, real estate negotiation service, and construction service. And humanitarian projects that we assist are helping the Afghani people recover from the traumas of war and a repressive regime.



As for the future, people throughout the Corps are learning the Project Management Business Process, the system that is revolutionizing how the Corps does business. We are becoming a Learning Organization where we will share lessons learned across the entire Corps. In the environment, our seven Environmental Operating Principles are sharpening and guiding our commitment to protect and restore the natural world. All these and much more demonstrates the combination of personal caring and professional expertise that our people bring to their work. I'm very proud of what you have accomplished, and of the difference you have made in the nation, and in the world. The coming year will bring more challenges. But I have no doubt that if we keeping taking care of each other, keep changing as an organization, and maintain our unique blend of personal compassion and technical expertise, we will face those challenges as well as we always have in the past. To prepare for those challenges, take time off this holiday season, relax, and enjoy being with your family and friends. Nothing is more precious than time spent with loved ones. My family joins me in wishing you a safe and joyous holiday season, and a happy, prosperous New Year.

Essayons!

**ROBERT B. FLOWERS**  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Commanding

## ASMC Donates Turkeys to Rescue Mission

Lucy Fears, a member of the Music City Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers, delivered 18 frozen turkeys to the Nashville Rescue Mission Nov. 20 for the annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Fears collected frozen turkeys from ASMC chapter members and from members of the District Office. Officials at the Mission said one turkey will feed a family of 5 to 10 people - with the sliced meat only. The turkey as a casserole can feed 20 to 30 hungry people. Using the donated turkeys, the Mission was able to feed between 90 and 540 people over the holiday season thanks to

the generosity of 18 Nashville team members.



Photo by Dave Treadway



# Corps Lauded for Water Resources Management

The Great Lakes and Ohio River Division’s Water Management Team received the 2002 Sandor C. Csallany Institutional Award Nov. 6 from the American Water Resources Association (AWRA) at Wyndham Franklin Plaza Hotel in Philadelphia, Pa.

Nashville District made a significant contribution to the Division efforts during the award period since the Tennessee and Cumberland River Basins control 30 percent of the Ohio River watershed as legislated by Section 7 of the Flood Control Act of 1944.

Since 1991, AWRA has presented awards to five water resources institutions for excellence in some aspect of managing the nation’s water. This marks the first time for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to be so honored.

AWRA President Kenneth J. Lanfear said LRD’s Water Management Team earned the award by achieving an unmatched level of eminence in its mission and by demonstrating leadership in water resources management.

LRD Team Leader Dave Buelow accepted the award on behalf of the team. “From 1984-2001, the team has performed its unique mission of reducing Ohio and Mississippi River flood damages and preserving and protecting the Mississippi River levee system, which is of significant importance to the heartland of our nation,” said Deborah H. Lee, Division hydraulic engineer.

Since 1984, LRD’s Water Management Team has prevented flood damages of more than \$343 million and reduced flood stages by 2.68 feet at Cairo, Ill., through the complex management of the Tennessee and Cumberland River Basins. These Basins comprise 30 percent of the Ohio River watershed as legislated by Section 7 of the Flood Control Act of 1944.

According to Regional Analyst Phillip Jones, who reports Nashville’s numbers to LRD team member and hydrologist George McKee, Nashville is credited with \$236 million of that total.

In 1997, the actions of LRD’s Water Management Team helped mitigate one of the largest floods since the Great

Flood of 1937, said Lee. While the flood crested at 56.21 feet at Cairo, Ill., the management of the Kentucky and Barkley reservoirs alone prevented the stage from reaching more than 58 feet and precluded the need to use Birds Point-New Madrid Floodway levees, according to Lee. “Their management (Team) prevented flood damages of more than \$102 million on the lower Ohio River and more that \$73 million in the lower Mississippi Valley.”

Actions by Nashville District alone that year prevented more than \$52 million in flood damages along the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers.

According to Brig. Gen. Edwin J. Arnold Jr., president, Mississippi River Commission, if not for LRD’s Water Management Team’s successful efforts, the Dyer County Levee flood fight may have been unsuccessful and the subsequent operation of the Morganza Floodway in central Louisiana would have

flooded thousands of acres of crops and farmsteads.

The LRD Team works closely with the Tennessee Valley Authority for the operation of Kentucky Lake on the Tennessee River and with Nashville District to manage Barkley Lake and the entire Cumberland River System.

The team must maintain constant communication with the National Weather Service Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center and the Ohio River Forecast Center to ensure accurate public river forecasts.

In support of its mission, LRD’s Water Management Team upholds a fully redundant, yet top of the line, water management system that collects and processes thousands of pieces of data on a daily basis, and it is the only government agency that has a dynamic routing model that simulates the flow of water through the full length of the Ohio River and the junction of the Mississippi River.



## Consideration of Others Session

Mark Carnes (right), from Regulatory Branch, works as part of a team to accomplish a task while participating in a Consideration of Others (CO2) session on Nov. 21 in Chattanooga, Tenn. The exercise was designed to allow District members to demonstrate the value of teamwork. Two teams had to elect a leader and only the leader could approach the opposing team and/or facilitator. The object was to move a marble from one side of the room to the other using only the materials provided. Competing teams had to use their own ingenuity, trust, and teamwork to attain the objective. At the end of the exercise, Facilitator David Claussen posed a series of questions...i.e., “Who was elected leader?” “How was the leader chosen?” “Did all come to a consensus on the project?” The questions were designed to help team members arrive at a win-win situation and relate to the real world within the Corps. Members were able to use many concepts from the Project Management Business Process Curriculum currently under review by all Corps of Engineers employees.

# Project Phoenix Earns TRPA Four-Star Award

Stories & photos by Dave Treadway

Ranger Sondra Hafling accepted the Tennessee Recreation & Parks Association Four-Star Award for Renovated Facility Nov. 16 at the agency’s annual awards banquet in Franklin, Tenn.

Project Phoenix received the honor for the renovation of Lillydale Recreation Area on Dale Hollow Lake, only the second time the Corps has received such recognition for a renovation. J. Percy Priest was honored last year for renovations at Poole Knobs campground.

Resource Manager Ronnie Smith appreciates the honor but said others deserve the credit.

“Dale Hollow accepts this award,” said Smith, “on behalf of the National Wild Turkey Federation, the Friends of Dale Hollow, the Middle Tennessee Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and all of our contributing partners and donors who made Project Phoenix a success.” He also praised TRPA.

“The entire Dale Hollow Lake Resource Management staff appreciates TRPA for recognizing all of the great programs and facilities that are made



Sondra Hafling (left) accepts the Four-Star Award for Renovated Facility Nov. 16 from Lisa Piefer, President of the Tennessee Recreation & Parks Association.

available statewide to the citizens of Tennessee.”

In the summer of 2000, rangers and biologists discovered an infestation of

Southern Pine Beetles, which caused thousands of Loblolly pine trees to die along Dale Hollow’s pristine shorelines, including all the pine canopy at Lillydale.

The result of such devastation posed severe environmental and safety issues which forced management to close the campground for the 2001 recreation season and remove the 1,200 dead trees as a matter of public safety.

Realizing the need for a proactive tree restoration program, The Dale Hollow Lake Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Friends of Dale Hollow Lake stepped forward to partner with the Corps of Engineers, and Project Phoenix was born. Taking its name from the American Indian legend of the mighty thunderbird believed to replenish the earth, Project Phoenix adopted the mission of replacing dead pines with native hardwood tree species.

Coordinators initiated the restoration effort with a media campaign to educate the public and foster volunteer enthusiasm. Then the first phase of the massive tree-planting crusade was kicked off by 100 Boy-Scouts and adult volunteers

## Andreas Patterson Honored By TRPA

Andreas Patterson was awarded the 2002 Resource Management Award for Excellence by the Tennessee Recreation and Parks Association (TRPA) Nov. 16 during the Association’s annual conference in Franklin, Tenn.

Patterson was nominated for the award because of her numerous contributions to TRPA and her work in various capacities with the Nashville District. Since 1999, as a Fish and Wildlife Specialist in the Natural Resources Management Branch, she contributes to the preservation of natural resources at ten multi-purpose water resource development projects in the Cumberland River Basin.

Co-worker Carolyn Bauer had high praise for Patterson.

“Andreas is dedicated, knowledgeable and has the outstanding ability to inject



Andreas Patterson displays her award.

See Patterson, Page 10

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# Corps, Volunteers Conduct Caney Fork River Minimum Flow Study



Jay Clementi (top) reads the stream gage and Michael Lunn records the data at Lancaster, Tenn., 2 and 1/2 miles downstream of Center Hill Dam, Nov. 17. Both volunteers are members of the Cumberland Chapter of Trout Unlimited who helped record the rate of rise in the Caney Fork River during a minimum flow study. Clementi is a Fly Fishing Guide and Instructor in the sport.

Story & photos by Dave Treadway

Under less than ideal conditions on Nov. 16 and 17, Nashville Water Quality Team Leader Bob Sneed, along with biologist Richard Tippit and environmental engineer Jeff Gregory, assembled a team of 18 volunteers at Center Hill to conduct a minimum flow field study on the Caney Fork.

With temperatures hovering just above freezing, volunteer workers met each morning near the Long Branch Campground to go over assignments.

Two-man teams were then dispatched to five different locations where temporary staff gages had been installed to measure the rise and fall of the river following releases through the turbines at Center Hill Dam. Two-man teams allowed one person to fish while the other recorded data. Tippit and Gregory traveled the entire length of the study area monitoring dissolved oxygen, temperature, pH, and specific conductance levels.

“With the assistance of Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency,” said Sneed, “and volunteers from the Cumberland Chapter of Trout Unlimited, we were able to collect some very valuable information that will be used for a variety of purposes here at the Corps. We will use the data in our evaluation of turbine pulsing as a means to provide minimum flow.

“In addition, engineers in the water resources section will apply this information in the development of a flow model for the Caney Fork.”

Things got started Sunday morning when the Power Plant Operator at Cordell Hull ran

one Center Hill turbine for one hour beginning at 8 a.m. Jay Clementi, a Fly Fishing Guide and Instructor from Nashville, along with Michael Lunn, an avid fly fisherman and environmental proponent, began measuring and carefully documenting the rise in the water level at the Lancaster gage 2 ½ miles downstream when the flow reached that point 30 minutes later.

“I really appreciate the Corps of Engineers’ interest in trout habitat downstream of the Dam,” said Clementi, “because you don’t have to be concerned with it. But it is important for lots of reasons. Trout will flourish if habitat is ideal for their food sources, the bugs and invertebrates they depend on. Fishermen will be happier because they will find fish more plentiful, and people with businesses like myself who guide those fishermen will have more business. I am very happy to see the Corps conducting a minimum flow study.”

The other teams positioned at Happy Hollow, Bettys Island, Old Stonewall Bridge, and Smith County Middle School ball fields farthest downstream waited for the water to come their way. They also recorded water levels every half hour that day, or more frequently during periods of rapid change.

Clementi and Lunn recorded gage readings at two-minute intervals as the turbine pulse moved past Lancaster. Further downstream at Stonewall, Frank Fiss, who manages the trout program for Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, recorded data every half hour. Then, around 1 p.m. (five hours after the pulse was initiated) the water reached his location, signaling him to record more frequent measurements.

“This far from the Dam the rise and fall of the water isn’t very rapid,” explained Fiss, “but even here the effects of the pulsing action are evident.” Each gage was provided with a camera to document how much of the riverbed was underwater at recorded times. Fiss took photos looking downstream from the new Stonewall bridge. When water levels were stable, gage workers had a chance to practice their fly-fishing.

The pulsing schedule for the weekend test was designed to evaluate a range of project operation scenarios. The one-hour pulse on Saturday morning came 12 hours after five hours of continuous generation was discontinued on Friday night. The project was then operated on a cycle of seven hours of zero generation followed by one hour of single unit use.

Sneed explained, “We wanted to see how the river reacted with respect to how much water was in the channel prior to the turbine pulse.” The five monitoring sites were selected based on a combination of their proximity to the dam, access, habitat characteristics, and popularity



Frank Fiss, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, discusses the rise and fall of the water levels with Bob Sneed at the gage located under the Old Stonewall Bridge.



Bob Sneed briefs (from left) Jay Clementi, President Gil Lackey, Cumberland Chapter Trout Unlimited, and Joey Huffines early Sunday morning at Long Branch Boat Ramp.

among fishermen. All the sites had gravel bars and shallow channel areas that would benefit from a minimum flow.

“Trout and their aquatic food base depend on these areas for food and cover,” explained Sneed, “and if they are high and dry for extended periods of time, then the aquatic insects that could live there between generation cycles will either die or be forced to inhabit a more constricted portion of the streambed and as a result ideal fish habitat will be reduced.

Less habitat means less fish.

“We manage the Center Hill Project, and of course those at J. Percy Priest, Dale Hollow, Wolf Creek, and Laurel River primarily for flood control and the production of hydropower. As a result of holding back and releasing water for those purposes sometimes the streambed and the aquatic life downstream is altered.

“What this study may do is allow us to make a case for striking a balance where we can improve the aquatic ecosystem downstream without adversely impacting either the hydropower or the flood control missions. This seems to be in agreement with the Environmental Operating Principles recently enacted at Headquarters,” concluded Sneed.

A minimum flow turbine pulsing scheme was implemented at Wolf Creek Dam in 2000. The Water Quality Team has witnessed a tremendous improvement in water quality conditions and aquatic habitat since then for that reach of the Cumberland River. Such a practice might also produce similar results on the Caney Fork.